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## NOTES AND NEWS.

IN JANUARY, 1899, will be issued in this city the first number of a quarterly journal designed to promote the interests of anthropology in America. The subscription price will be \$4.00.

Each number, consisting of about two hundred octavo pages, will contain original papers, scientific notes and news and a current bibliography of Anthropology.

The new publication will take the place of the American Anthropologist, under the same name, or one of two others: The American Journal of Anthropology, or Anthropology.

The editorial board is composed of Dr. Frank Baker, Dr. Franz Boas, Dr. D. G. Brinton, Dr. George M. Dawson, Dr. George A. Dorsey, Prof. W. H. Holmes, Maj. J. W. Powell, Prof. F. W. Putnam, and F. W. Hodge, Secretary and Managing Editor.

The publishers will be Messrs, G. P. Putnam's Sons.

POPULAR LECTURES IN GEOGRAPHY.—The popular lectures for workingmen and women, given by the Board of Education of New York City, and managed by Dr. H. M. Leipziger, are now a very important part of the educational system of the city. The very large audiences, gathered from among all classes, listen with not only courteous, but interested attention. The people are not drawn together for amusement or from curiosity, but from a desire to be informed. The desire to know is very apparent in the majority of the faces that a lecturer meets in any part of the city.

Within the last two years Dr. Leipziger has planned courses at the various lecture centres so that a certain amount of concentration and continuity of thought is possible. This is well illustrated by the arrangements for the first course of lectures for 1898–99, running from October to January. Lectures are given at 38 different places in all parts of the Boroughs of Manhattan and the Bronx. At these centres 657 lectures will be given in the courses mentioned. Of these lectures, 207 will be on geographical subjects, usually in courses of 6, 8, 9, or 10 lectures each. 126 lectures will be given on the descriptive geography of different parts of the world, especially those parts now in the public mind; 55 lectures will be given on North America, and 20 on the United States. A course of six will be given in Anthropology.

The popularity and importance of geographical subjects is, we think, well shown by the proportion of time devoted to such subjects. This is an encouraging thing for working geographers, and deserves a wider recognition. If such work can be sustained in a popular way, it will not be long before the parents of this city will be demanding better geography work in schools, and overturning the generally accepted feeling that any one can teach geography.

R. E. D.

THE CITY LIBRARY ASSOCIATION, Springfield, Massachusetts, will open in March, 1899, an exhibition of material relating to geography and geology.

The first purpose of this undertaking is to show the latest and best material for the use of instructors of all grades, from the primary school and kindergarten to the college and university. With this object in view the Association desires to secure copies of the best text-books, periodicals, maps, charts, relief maps, models, globes, lantern slides, collections of specimens, and devices of all kinds for teaching geography and geology.

Another and very important object of the exhibition is, to interest the general public in recent progress in the sciences of geography and geology and to demonstrate that progress, as far as possible, by the display of published results.

Special attention will be paid to a display of such material as will be of value to those who are interested commercially in foreign countries, and especially in the republics of South and Central America and in Mexico.

The exhibition will continue for several weeks.

Dr. D. G. Brinton has reprinted from the *Proceedings of the American Philosophical Society*, Vol. XXXVII, his paper on the Linguistic Cartography of the Chaco region. This paper, which is illustrated by a coloured map, supplements the pages devoted to the Chaco tribes in the author's volume on *The American Race* (New York, 1891). Another reprint is On Two Unclassified Recent Vocabularies from South America.

With these two comes a contribution to bibliography. Under the title of a *Record of Study in Aboriginal American Languages*, Dr. Brinton prints for private distribution a list of his writings on American linguistics to the number of 71, down to the month of October, 1898.

Students in this difficult line will recognize the value of such a list.

COLLECTIVE WISDOM is an excellent thing. The National Educational Association has adopted certain changes in spelling: for programme, program; for though, tho; for although, altho; for thorough, thoro; for thoroughfare, thorofare; for through, thru; for throughout, thruout;

for catalogue, catalog; for prologue, prolog; for decalogue, decalog; for demagogue, demagog; for pedagogue, pedagog. (The Educational Review, Nov., 1898, p. 402.)

These mutilated words are not unlike the forms evolved by the deep mind of dauntless infancy, wrestling with the parts of speech; but they lack the charm of the child's performance.

THE ALASKA GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY has just been organized at Seattle, Washington. Its field of activity is not limited, as might be inferred from its name, to the territory of Alaska, but embraces the world.

The new society desires to enter into relation and to exchange publications with similar associations at home and abroad.

The president is Arthur C. Jackson, F.R.G.S., and the secretary Prof. Frederick I. Monsen.

THE AUGUSTANA COLLEGE AND THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY, Rock Island, Illinois, has brought out the first number of the Augustana Library publications, a paper on the Mechanical Composition of Wind Deposits, by Johan August Udden.

This is a careful study of observations on drifting sand, lee sand and atmospheric dust, illustrated by nearly forty tables.

THE OTTAWA LITERARY AND SCIENTIFIC SOCIETY, which was incorporated at the close of the year 1869, has just issued the first number of its Transactions.

The society is the outgrowth of the Mechanics Institute, founded in 1847, re-named the Bytown Mechanics Institute and Athenæum in 1853, and afterwards consolidated with the Ottawa Natural History Society. Besides the introduction and an historical sketch the papers in this first number are: The Name of Ottawa; The Violinist; Place Names of Canada; The Fur Seal of the North Pacific; The Yukon and its Gold Resources, and the Utilization of Moss Lands.

The article on Place Names presents, with many historical reminiscences, a bit of curious misinformation in the following footnote on page 37:

The evolution of the word "boss" is interesting. It was originally base—the man at the base; the man upon whom the enterprise rests. We say, "It rests with him to make it a success." The early Dutch on this continent used the word Baas, and the English sounding of "boss" soon came to spell it so.

The Dutch word bass, which means master, is in no way related to the English word base. According to the Introduction the city of Ottawa is without a public library, and this regrettable condition may have something to do with the confusion of ideas in the footnote.

THE ROYAL GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY makes the following appeal on behalf of a National Antarctic Expedition:

A joint committee of the Royal Society and of our own society has been formed for the purpose of obtaining funds for the equipment of a National Antarctic Expedition.

The Fellows of the Society are so fully informed as to the many strong reasons for the exploration of the vast unknown Antarctic area, that it is unnecessary to repeat them. All the scientific societies in the Kingdom are unanimous as to the necessity for such an expedition, and the value of the results which would accrue. Her Majesty's Government have been urged to undertake the work, but while they do not see their way to do so directly, they have expressed their strong interest in, and approval of, the movement for obtaining the necessary funds from private sources.

There is no time to lose. In 1900 Germany will send out a fully equipped expedition for Antarctic exploration; and the scientific men who have been active in promoting the enterprise look to Great Britain for cooperation. The field is vast, and there is ample room for more than one adequate expedition.

Unless, then, this country is content to sit still and see herself superseded in a field in which she has hitherto held the foremost place, we must be assured of the necessary funds without delay. For an adequately equipped expedition, prepared to remain at work for two or three years, the sum of £100,000 is required. If the whole amount cannot be obtained, the Committee are resolved to do what they can with whatever funds may be placed at their disposal.

Out of the funds of the Society the Council contribute £5,000; a like sum is promised by Alfred Harmsworth, Esq.; the President, Sir Clements Markham, K.C.B., contributes £100; and smaller sums have been promised.

On behalf of the Council, I appeal to the Fellows for help according to their means; for, after the Government, the responsibility of maintaining the credit of the nation in this respect devolves upon the Royal Geographical Society more than upon any other body.

Contributions may be sent, to the credit of the National Antarctic Expedition, to Messrs. Cocks, Biddulph & Co., Charing Cross, S.W., or to the Society, I Savile Row, W.

CLEMENTS R. MARKHAM,
President, Royal Geographical Society.

I SAVILE ROW, LONDON, W. November 21, 1898.

THE XIXTH FRENCH GEOGRAPHICAL CONGRESS, which was held at Marseilles, in September last, made the following recommendations, among others:

That a detailed lithological and bathymetrical chart of the French submarine coast be prepared as promptly as possible;

That the number of hours allotted to geography in the scheme of secondary instruction be increased so as to give more importance to colonial geography and the geography of France; and that instruction in geography hold the same place in the classical as in the modern course;

That the Government proceed to put in execution, with the cooperation of private initiative and that of the municipalities and elected bodies, the plan for the organization of colonial instruction in a certain number of universities;

That a free port be created at Marseilles;

That the canal from the Rhone to Marseilles be begun, and that the Etang de Berre (in the Department of the Bouches-du-Rhône) be utilized;

That the works necessary to restore the navigability of the Loire be undertaken; And that the plan for a canal between the Loire and the Garonne be perfected and executed;

That the geographical societies use their best efforts for the formation of departmental syndicates to arrest the destruction of forests, to restore them wherever desirable, and to protect the natural reservoirs of waters, such as lakes, ponds, etc., and prevent obstruction of the streams.

THE ANNALES DE GÉOGRAPHIE, for November 15, has a paper by M. Henri Lorin on the Congo Railway, which is destined, he thinks, to play a chief part in the economical and political history of Africa.

Large plantations are already in existence above Stanley Pool, and optimists declare that within ten years the Congo will produce all the coffee required by Belgium, and will have become one of the first markets in the world for cacao and tobacco.

Plans are now being made for the regulation of the rubber trade, so as to prevent the destruction of the trees and vines, and also for the protection of the elephant, now in danger of extermination by the ivory hunters.

The cost of transportation on farming implements, salt and rice, has already been reduced fifty per cent., and it is easy to foresee the day when other railroads will be built.

BUDAPEST IN 1896.—The Statistical Bureau of Budapest has published the detailed results of the census of the city taken on the 15th of November, 1896. Including the garrison of 16,220 soldiers, the population amounted to 617,856; an increase, since January, 1891, of 111,472.

Dr. von Körösy, the director of the Bureau, estimates the probable population on the 1st of July, 1900, at 685,340.

THE SINOPSIS ESTADÍSTICA Y JEOGRÁFICA DE LA REPÚBLICA DE CHILE, for 1897, estimates the area of the country at 753,216 square kilometres (290,828 square miles), and the population on the 31st of December, 1897, at 3,049,352\*.

The foreign commerce of the Republic in 1897 amounted to a total value of 130,256,938 dollars, 18,185,281 dollars less than the total for 1896. The decrease is attributed to three causes: an

<sup>\*</sup> According to the U. S. Census of 1890, the State of Texas has an area of 265,780 square miles and a population of 2,235,500.

industrial crisis, a lower ruling price for mineral products, and a scarcity of capital.

The most important article of export is nitrate of soda, of which Chile has furnished in the 68 years, 1830-1897, the amount of 388,298,125 quintals (Spanish)=39,218,110,625 pounds.

The greatest exportation for one year was, in 1893, 27,285,205 quintals; that for 1897 was 23,970,789.

The death, on the 19th of November, of Commandant Bonetti, one of the oldest vice-presidents and most active members of the Société de Géographie Commerciale, of Bordeaux, is announced in the Bulletin, No. 21-22.

LECTURES.—At the Annual Meeting, January 16, 1899, Mr. Edward C. Barnard, of the U. S. Geological Survey, will describe the Yukon Valley and the work of exploration by the party under his command in the Forty-Mile District, in the Klondike region.

On the 13th of February, Mr. H. M. Wilson, Topographer, U. S. Geological Survey, will address the Society on the Island of Porto Rico, its Topography and Aspects.